

REMARKS

Prior to entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 11-18, 35-51, 59-61, 64-67, 72 and 75-77 were pending. The foregoing amendment cancels previously pending claims 16-18, 44, 59-61, 65-67, 72, 76 and 77. Claims 11, 15, 35, 47 and 64 have been amended. Therefore, upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 11-15, 35-43, 45-51, 64 and 75 remain pending.

In the March 31, 2004 Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 16-18, 44, 47, 48 and 67 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim(s). Claims 17 and 18, now canceled, were dependent from claim 11. Claim 11 has been rewritten to include, in the alternative, the limitations of claims 17 and 18. It is respectfully submitted that claim 11, as rewritten, is now allowable. Claim 16, now canceled, depended from claim 15 which, in turn, depended from claim 11. Claim 15 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of claim 11 and claim 16. Therefore, it is submitted that amended claim 15 is now allowable. Claim 44, now canceled, was dependent from claim 35. Claim 35 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 44. It is respectfully submitted that claim 35, as rewritten, is now allowable. Claim 47 also depended from claim 35. Claim 47 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of claim 35. Therefore, it is submitted that amended claim 47 is now allowable. Claim 48 remains dependent from claim 47 and is allowable by virtue of its dependency therefrom. Claim 67 depended from claim 65 which, in turn, depended from claim 64. Claim 64 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 65 and 67, both of which have now been canceled. Therefore, it is submitted that amended claim 64 is now allowable.

It is respectfully submitted that the foregoing amendments obviate the remaining objections/rejections of the Examiner.

Objection to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. §1.83(a)

The Examiner has objected to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. §1.83(a) as allegedly failing to show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. The Examiner suggested that "a flow chart specifying the process steps be included in the drawings." In accordance with the Examiner's suggestion, Applicants have submitted herewith a proposed

new Figure 3, which is a flow chart depicting the steps of the claimed process. It is respectfully requested that this new drawing Figure 3 be entered in satisfaction of the objection under 37 C.F.R. §1.83(a). Proposed new drawing Figure 3 does not add any new matter to the disclosure in prohibition of 35 U.S.C. §1.132.

The Examiner is kindly requested to inform Applicants' representative, as soon as practicable, whether this proposed new drawing Figure 3 is acceptable or to advise of any changes to render such Figure acceptable.

CONCLUSION

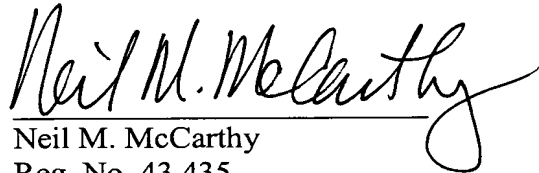
It is respectfully submitted that the subject application is now in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited, upon consideration of the foregoing response, to contact Applicant's representative to discuss any issue that would expedite allowance of the subject application.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and/or §1.17 in connection with this filing, or to credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Neil M. McCarthy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "M" and "C".

By: Neil M. McCarthy
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